Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention provides a system and method for recognizing different hand gestures made by touching a touch sensitive surface. The gestures can be made by one finger, two fingers, more than two fingers, one hand and two hands. Multiple users can simultaneously make different gestures. The gestures are used to control computer operations. The system measures an intensity of a signal at each of an $m \times n$ array of touch sensitive pads in the touch sensitive surface. From these signal intensities, a number of regions of contiguous pads touched simultaneously by a user is determined. An area of each region is also determined. A particular gesture is selected according to the number of regions and the area of each region.